Atty. Dkt. No. AT9-96-312   **PATENTS**

1. (Amended) A computer implemented method of assigning each of two or more intelligent agents to one of a plurality of mutually exclusive groups of tasks, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving data assessing at least two user assessment variables for each of said plurality of tasks;

performing multivariate analysis on said data to derive from said plurality of tasks at least as many mutually exclusive clusters of tasks as there are intelligent agents to assign;

storing [in a computer system] an association linking each of said intelligent agents with one of said mutually exclusive clusters; and

launching an intelligent agent for a task chosen for execution by a user.

5. (Amended) A system for storing an association between each of two or more intelligent agents and one of a plurality of mutually exclusive groups of computer implemented tasks, the system [having] **comprising** a processor means, storage means and input/output means, the system comprising:

means for receiving data assessing at least two user assessment variables for each of said tasks;

means for performing multivariate statistical [analyses] **analysis** on said data to determine at least as many statistically distinct groups of tasks as there are intelligent agents to assign;

means for storing in said storage means an association linking each of said intelligent agents with one of said statistically distinct clusters; **and**

subsequently providing a linked intelligent agent when a user executes a task.

7. (Amended) The system of claim 5, wherein said intelligent agents include a first "wizard" agent applicable to infrequent, difficult tasks and a second

2

3   "guide" **agent** applicable to frequent tasks, and wherein the means for performing

4   multivariate analysis comprises:

5   means for separating said tasks into two groups based on a frequency

6   variable;

7   means for performing multivariate statistical analysis on said two groups top

8   determine whether the groupings are statistically distinct; **and**

9   if not distinct, means for creating an additional group and means for

10   performing said multivariate analysis again until a statistically distinct

11   set of groups is found.

1   8.   (Amended)   A computer program product [having] **including** a

2   computer readable medium having computer program logic recorded thereon for

3   **use in a data processing system for** associating each of two or more intelligent

4   agents with one of a plurality of mutually exclusive groups of computer

5   implemented tasks, said computer program product comprising:

6   [computer program product] means [having computer readable means] for

7   receiving data assessing at least two user assessment variables for

8   each of said tasks;

9   [computer program product means having computer readable] means for

10   performing multivariate statistical [analyses] **analysis** on said data to

11   determine at least as many statistically distinct [groups] **clusters** of

12   tasks as there are intelligent agents to assign;

13   [computer program product means having computer readable] means for

14   storing in said storage means an association linking each of said

15   intelligent agents with one of said statistically distinct clusters**; and**

16   **means for launching an intelligent agent using an appropriate stored**

17   **association wherein a user of said dp system executes a task**.

3

955700.00863:0359965.01